

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/OT/STA:WCLARK,JR.:MH

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

EB:JAGREENWALD

EB/OT:WBARRACLOUGH

EUR/RPE:RBERSLER

EUR/CE:SKLINGAMAN

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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R 301247Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, AU

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA'S LETTER TO
THE SECRETARY OF JULY 8

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING REPLY FROM
THE SECRETARY TO AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA'S
TELEGRAM OF JULY 8 ON SPECIALTY STEEL. BEGIN TEXT:

H.E. THE HONORABLE DR. ERICH BIELKA
FEDERAL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR TELEGRAM OF JULY 8 REGARDING THE
AUSTRIAN VIEWS ON THE RECENT RESTRICTIONS OF IMPORTS OF
SPECIALTY STEEL INTO THE UNITED STATES AND THE REQUEST
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THAT AUSTRIA BE PROVIDED A SEPARATE QUOTA FOR ALLOY

TOOL STEEL.

AS I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE, THE DECISION TO IMPOSE RESTRAINTS ON SPECIALTY STEEL IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES WAS TAKEN ONLY AFTER THE MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. THE LEVELS ESTABLISHED FOR THE QUOTAS ADOPTED WERE AS LIBERAL AS POSSIBLE. EVERY EFFORT WAS MADE TO ASSURE FAIR TREATMENT FOR ALL AFFECTED COUNTRIES AND, AT THE SAME TIME, TO KEEP THE RESTRICTIONS AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE.

I CAN APPRECIATE THE CONCERN OF THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT OVER THE POSSIBLE TRADE EFFECTS OF THESE MEASURES. AS NOTED BY THE PRESIDENT WHEN HE ANNOUNCED THESE CONTROLS, WE ARE MONITORING IMPORTS CLOSELY TO ASSURE EQUITABLE TREATMENT FOR ALL COUNTRIES. SHOULD IT APPEAR AT ANY TIME THAT AUSTRIAN IMPORTS OF ALLOY TOOL STEEL INTO THE UNITED STATES ARE BEING OR ARE LIKELY TO BE UNDULY RESTRICTED, WE WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION TO CORRECT THAT SITUATION. GIVEN THE CLOSE MONITORING OF THIS PROGRAM, I AM SURE THAT ACTION CAN BE TAKEN BEFORE ANY SERIOUS DAMAGE OCCURS.

ACCEPT, SIR, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

HENRY A. KISSINGER
SECRETARY OF STATE

KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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